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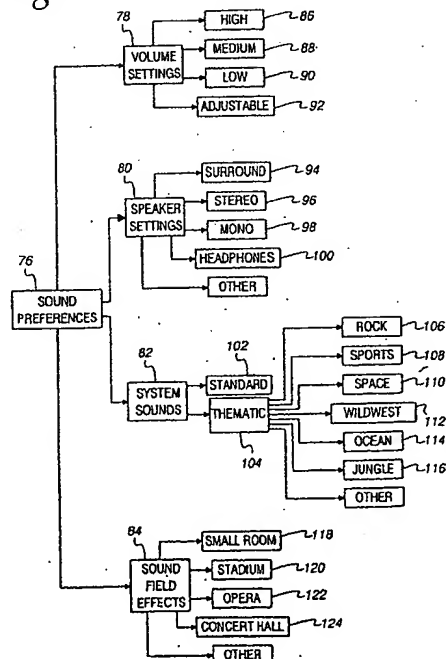
(30) Priority: 16.01.2003 US 342809

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(54) Selectable audio preferences for a gaming machine

(57) A wagering gaming system comprises a gaming terminal and a sound processing system. The gaming terminal conducts a wagering game and the player is allowed to select sound preferences in connection with the wagering game. The sound processing system is adapted to process audio data in response to user selections of sound preferences other than a master volume preference. According to some embodiments, a user is able to make selections regarding sound aspects such as speaker settings, system sounds, sound field effects, and sound tones.

Fig.4



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Application Number
EP 04 00 0730

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Y	* paragraphs [0044] - [0051], [0097] - [0099], [0104]; figures 1a-5 *	4,5,35, 36	
Y	US 2001/024971 A1 (BROSSARD) 27 September 2001 (2001-09-27)	4,5,35, 36	
A	* paragraphs [0023] - [0025], [0030] - [0032], [0047]; figures 1-8 *	1,32	
X	US 6 110 041 A (WALKER ET AL.) 29 August 2000 (2000-08-29)	1,2, 11-13, 32-35	
A	* column 3, line 28 - line 54 * * column 5, line 6 - column 7, line 24; figures 1-3 *	3-10,14, 15	
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1 The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 11 October 2004	Examiner Rivero, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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Application Number
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1	Place of search The Hague	Date of completion of the search 11 October 2004	Examiner Rivero, C
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : Intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-15, 32-42

European Patent
OfficeLACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-15 32-42

An electronic gaming system and method of operation having a gaming terminal, a user input device allowing for selection of at least one sound preference other than a master sound preference, a sound processing system accepting the user input device instructions and an audio-emitting system

2. claims: 16-17

An electronic gaming system having a sound processing system adapted to process game sounds relating to said game, an input system adapted to accept sound preferences including inputs for controlling aspects of said game sounds, said sound preferences including a first class of sound preferences being controllable by the player and a second class of preferences being controlled by an operator

3. claims: 18-31 44-47

An electronic gaming system comprising a gaming terminal, a central processing unit, a memory coupled to said central processing unit storing audio data, a user input device, and a sound processing system receiving said audio data in a first audio signal, said sound processing system modifying said audio data in accordance with sound preferences to produce a second audio signal

4. claim: 43

An electronic gaming machine comprising a processor for randomly selecting one of a plurality of outcomes in response to a wager, an input system receiving sound data associated with audio characteristics of only selected frequencies within a frequency range of about 20 Hz to about 20 kHz, and a sound processing system capable of altering the selected frequencies of an audio output in response to said input system receiving sound inputs

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ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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